

09/741,217

MS160074.01

REMARKS

Claims 1-34 are currently pending in the subject application and are presently under consideration. Claims 1, 5, 10, 16, 22 and 26-33 have been amended, and claims 4 and 9 have been cancelled herein. Applicants' representative notes with appreciation the indication that claims 9-12, 14-15 and 22-25 have been deemed allowable, and that independent claims 1, 16 and 26-33 would be in condition for allowance if the limitations of the allowable claims were incorporated therein. To this end, the independent claims have been amended to comport with the Examiner's indication, and as such these claims (and those that depend there from) are now believed to be in condition for allowance. A version of all pending claims is found at pages 2-8. Favorable consideration of the subject patent application is respectfully requested in view of the amendments herein.

In addition, it should be noted that applicants' representative intends to file a continuation application to pursue the original and/or rejected claims.

I. Rejection of Claims 1-8, 13, 16-21 and 26-34 Under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 1-8, 13, 16-21 and 26-34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Boden *et al.* (US 6,33,562). Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested in view of the amendments, incorporating the allowable subject matter indicated by the Examiner, to independent claims 1, 16 and 26-33.

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CONCLUSION


The present application is believed to be in condition for allowance in view of the above amendments. A prompt action to such end is earnestly solicited.

In the event any fees are due in connection with this document, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1063.

Should the Examiner believe a telephone interview would be helpful to expedite favorable prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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